Conversion of Dharmavaram Pakala Tirupati line from metre gauge into broad gauge

1839. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to convert Dharmavaram Pakala-Tirupati metre gauge line into broad gauge line;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above is in negative, what are the reasons for which this not being taken up in view of the importance of Tirupati as a pilgrimage centre?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Constraint of resources and heavy commitments already on hand for Gauge Conversions.

High-tech jointless track circuits on welded rail tracks

1840. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to instal high-tech jointless track circuits on welded rail track to upgrade rail signalling facilities; and

(b) whether these circuits will be manufactured by the Railway workshops or by public sector units?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) By both-Railway Workshops as well as public sector undertakings.

Import of Rail Grinding Machine

1841. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to import Rail Grinding Machine to upgrade maintenance facilities to upkeep Rail track;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal for indigenisation; and

(d) if so, by when it is likely to be achieved?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir. It is proposed to import one such machine.

(b) The grinding machine will cost approximately Rs. 5 crores for which tenders have already been opened and are under finalisation.

(c) Since there is no proposal at present to buy more such machines, there is no specific programme of indigenisation.

(d) Does not arise.

Opening of broad gauge line in Delhi Cantt. for passenger traffic

1842. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state;

(a) whether there is a broad gauge line in Delhi Cantt. coming from Delhi Main;

(b) if so, for what purpose it is being utilized; and

(c) what is the difficulty in opening it for passenger traffic so that large number of people from west Delhi are benefited?